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## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **West-MEC achieves 99.8 percent pass rate during 2020-2021**

**Glendale, Ariz. (August, 2021)** -- Each year West-MEC, a Career and Technical Education (CTE) school district, parses through student data to measure performance, identify areas of growth and celebrate success. Overall, there has been a positive trend among students who enrolled in West-MEC programs despite COVID-19 challenges.

From the academic year 20-21, the West-MEC programs offered had a 99.8% pass rate with a 92% retention rate. In this recent cohort, 96% of the students earned industry credentials along with program certification. This is instrumental in staying ahead in the current job market. In fact, over 80% were positively placed in education, employment and military.

Asst. Superintendent Stephen Weltsch said, "While we have had impressive metrics, it isn't about data points. West-MEC is about changing lives one student at a time. These are young people who have earned the technical skills for achieving career readiness, and the professional skills to advance along a career pathway."

As a CTE district, West MEC listens to public and industry needs and provides programs that fill the work gap. And one such industry need is healthcare which is being met by the new Nursing Services program that started this fall.

Weltsch said, "We are excited about our growth through the years and this would not be possible without the consistent dedication of our staff, teachers and students."

With an increase in both enrollment and programs, West-MEC is positioned to meet the growing economic development needs in the West Valley and beyond.

### **About West-MEC:**

**West-MEC is a career technical education public school district that focuses solely on innovative career and technical education (CTE) programs that prepare students to enter the workforce and pursue continuing education. West-MEC CTE programs provide students opportunities to earn college credit and industry credentials. West-MEC serves more than 37,000 students from 48 high schools, across 3,600 square miles in the northern and western cities of the Phoenix Metropolitan area. West-MEC now also offers adult education programs. Visit [www.west-mec.edu](http://www.west-mec.edu) for more information about**

**West-MEC's career-driven education opportunities or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.**

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